# Application of <u>Links Water Treatment, LLC</u> for approval of an establishment of rates and charges for the operations of a sewer system and for establishment of a service territory



Docket No. 2002-328-S

703 FEB 26 M & 45
SC PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Direct Testimony of William O. Richardson Utilities Department



Public Service Commission of South Carolina

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#### Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND OCCUPATION.

- **A.** William O. Richardson, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210. I am employed by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Utilities Department, as Chief of the Water and Wastewater Area.
- Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.
- A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Clemson University in 1975. After graduation I was employed by Daniel Construction Company as an Electrical Engineer in the Power Division. In 1978 I was employed by this Commission as an Engineer Associate II. I have attended various courses and seminars related to engineering, life analysis and accounting relationships. I have testified before this Commission in other proceedings involving fuel adjustment clauses, purchased gas adjustments, and rate case proceedings of electric, water and wastewater utilities.
- Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?
- **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to verify the annualized revenue that would be produced by the proposed rates and charges; provide some insight about the tap fee; discuss depreciation and provide a summary of the condition of the wastewater treatment plant and system.
- Q. PLEASE PROCEED.
- **A.** The Company is requesting Commission approval to charge \$221.00 per quarter per customer for sewer service for its 22 customers. This would provide the Company annualized revenue of \$19,448 as shown in Utilities Department Exhibit WOR-1.
  - The Company in its application had requested a tap fee of \$1,000.00. In corresponding with the Company, concerning the information required to be filed for the establishment, the Company stated that the LLC would not charge a tap fee but would instead simply make it the responsibility of every owner to tap into the system at their own cost.

 The Company did not have any records to indicate plant investment by categories since the system was simply a part of a larger development and no value was assigned to that part of the sewer system. Therefore there is no depreciation expense.

The wastewater treatment plant and collection system appeared to be sufficient to render safe, adequate and continuous service at all times and appeared to be operating as required. There was no detectable odor. See Utilities Department Exhibit <u>WOR-2</u>. The lift station area appeared to have had some clean up work performed recently.

#### Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

**A.** Yes it does.

## UTILITIES DEPARTMENT EXHIBIT WOR -1

#### LINKS WATER TREATMENT LLC

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The Company had 22 customers at the end of the test year 12.31.02

01.01.02 = 2212.31.02 = 22

Source of Revenue	Per Books \$	Pro Forma \$	After Adjustment <b>\$</b>	
Sewer Service	11 760	7,688 (1)	19,448	
Misc. Rev.	0	0	0	
Tap Fees	0	0	0	
Total revenue	11,760	7,688	19,448	

<sup>(1)</sup> To annualize revenues for 22 customers @ \$221per quarter.

## **UTILITIES DEPARTMENT EXHIBIT WOR-2**

## **SEWERAGE SYSTEM INSPECTION**

UTILITY: LINKS WATER TREATMENT	NO. OF CUSTOMERS: 22						
SYSTEM: LINKS O'TRYON SUBDIVISI	ON	DATE INSPECTED: JANUARY 22, 2003					
INSPECTED BY: WM. RICHARDSON	CO.	CO. REPRESENTATIVE:: STEVE SANDLIN					
TYPE OF PLANT:	MECHANICAL	<u>X</u> :	LAGOON				
EXTENT OF TREATMENT:	PRIMARY	SECONDA	RY X	TERTIARY			
CHLORINATOR	YES X	NO					
OTHER CHEMICALS IN USE	YES	NO <u> X</u>					
AERATORS	YES X	_ NO					
PLANT FENCED & LOCKED	YES X	NO					
WARNING SIGNS VISIBLE	YES X	NO					
HOLES IN FENCE	YES						
EROSION OF DIKES	YES						
ODOR	YES						
GRASS CUT	YES X						
DUCK WEED OR ALGAE	YES	_ NO <u>X</u>					
GREASE BUILD-UP	YES	_ NO <u>X</u>					
DEBRIS INSIDE PLANT	YES	NO X					
COLOR OF EFFLUENT	CLEAR	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
LIFT STATIONS	YES X	NO	NUMBER	1			
FAILURE WARNING SYSTEM	YES X	_ NO					
ELECTRIC WIRING (ACCEPTABLE)	YES X						
OVERFLOWS	YES						
CONDITION OF ACCESS ROAD	GOOD X	BAD					
NEW CONSTRUCTION	YES X						
HOUSES	YES X						
UTILITY	YES	NO X					
FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR	DAILY						
LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE P.O. E	OX 282, TIGERVILLE	, SC 29688					
LOCATION OF SYSTEM INTERSECT	TION OF SC HWYS 14	AND 11 IN GREE	ENVILLE COU	NTY			
IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED WATER BY T	HIS UTILITY?		YES	NO _	X		
	BY WHOM?	BLUE RIDGE	E WATER DIST	RICT			
COMMENTS: THE LIFT STATION AREA APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN JUST RECENTLY CLEANED UP.							